

March Area 31/District 5 Monthly Meeting Minutes

March 4 2013

DCM Mary, Co-DCM Lynn, LCM Pauline and Secretary Amy present.

14 GSR's in attendance with 1 alternate, representing 14 groups.

4 new GSR's reported:

Sandy from the M & M Group in East Longmeadow - 10:30am - 11:30am Monday.

Angie from Each Day a New Beginning, Grace Union Church. Wilbraham. Women's meeting 6:30 - 8:00 on Wed.

Patty from the Sunrise Group, daily morning meeting at 7:00 am Monday through Sunday. Was at St. Mary's in Thorndike, now at 2072 Main St. in Three Rivers.

Corey from the Chicopee Beginners, Wednesday night 7:30-8:30. 1,2,3 step meeting on Springfield st. in Chicopee.

Welcome all new GSR's

2 Visiting committees present: Anne - Alternate Delegate, Eddie - Intergroup.

Mary - Co-DCM opened the meeting at 7:32 pm with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

Lynn Co-DCM read the role of the GSR from the service manual.

Jim (GSR) and Gabriel (alt) discussed their interpretation of Concept 2 and Tradition 3. We then went around the room and discussed the reading.

Please announce and remember that area 31 has a website: area31aa.org for all you area, FYI, and meeting information, online, including district meeting minutes.

Group Sharing:

JFM

Dale - **Green St.**, Monson - Thursday Beginner's Meeting 6:15 - 7:15 pm, Speaker/Discussion 7:30 - 8:30 pm. Meeting has good membership, has consistent incoming/outgoing commitments. The group is involved with institutions and just had elections.

JFM

Amy G. - **Tri-Area Group** - Brimfield Monday Night - 7:30-8:30 pm. Speaker/Discussion

Group has about 8 active members. Just celebrated 39 years on Jan. 14th. Usually has an incoming and an outgoing commitment each month. The meeting fluctuates in attendance but the last few months, attendance has been really good. Group gives out chips at the beginning of the meeting and medallions at the end. Gives books to newcomers with a weekly raffle. Brought up financial contributions at last b. meeting. At the moment the group does not feel they can afford it. Still trying to fill other service commitments. Just voted for chairperson to stay until the end of the year.

JF_

Not Present Jarel W. - **Belchertown Saturday Night** - 18 Park St. Parish House. Beginner's Meeting 7:00 – 7:45PM, 8:00-9:00PM speaker meeting Contributes to the pie chart.

JFM

Patrick - **Cold Spring Group** - Thursday 7:30-8:30 pm Belchertown United Congregational Church 18 Park St. This is an Open speaker discussion meeting, chaired on a volunteer basis. The business meeting is held the last Thursday of each month. This group chairs meetings by group members at the Providence Hospital every Saturday at 10:00 AM. 14 active members. Consistent incoming/outgoing commitments. Group is hurting for donations but is making rent. Is looking for more support at meeting.

JFM

Bob W. - **Chicopee Group** - 110 Cyman St. Chicopee, MA Tuesday Night Beginner's Meeting reads "Living Sober" followed by discussion from 6 to 7 PM. Speaker meeting 7:30 to 8:30 PM. Contributes to pie 2-3 times a year. Has an incoming and outgoing commitment monthly. The group does a commitment at Carlson detox. Group would like more information on website. There is not many service commitments filled.

JFM

Bob W. - **Chicopee No No-nonsense Nooner** - 156 Springfield St. Chicopee, MA Monday/Wednesday/Friday at Noon This group meets three times a week at noon as follows: Monday is Big Book / Step Study meeting. Wednesday is a Speaker meeting; and Friday is Step reading and discussion meeting from the 12 & 12. The last Friday of the month the Tradition is read. Contributes to the pie 1-2 times a year. Anniversaries are celebrated with medallions,

given for milestones of sobriety. 12 active members attend. The group will be celebrating 14 years on Memorial Day 2013. Lack of member support/service commitments. The church signed an agreement for the use of the church.

JF_

Not Present Scott - **Welcome Home** -Tuesday 7:30 - 8:30 pm and Friday 7:30-8:30 pm - Thorndike New Birth Christian Church Formally met at Wing Memorial Hospital on Fridays and at the Palmer Green on Tuesdays. Both meetings will be remaining at the New Birth Christian Church. Now it is in the same home both nights. *The group needs active members and needs to be reorganized. Tuesday night is a step meeting. The group does contribute to the pie. Needs a bookie for commitments. Meeting has about 20-25 in attendance with about 5 active members. Looking for a detox commitment. Not doing commitments or contributing at the moment.

JFM

Juan - **East Longmeadow Sunday Night Group** open beginner's meeting 6:30 - 7:15 open speaker meeting 7:30. St. Michael's Parish Hall on Rt. 83. Approx. 25-30 members. Group continues to discuss possible changes to the Beginner's format. The group decided to remain at its present location at St. Michael's Parish Hall. They have a monthly commitment at Carlson's detox on the 2nd Monday of the month and also a commitment at Providence Hospital on the fifth floor. Their incoming/outgoing commitments are not consistent. The meeting has a great focus on newcomers offering greeters, sponsors, and beginners packets available. Does contribute to the pie chart.

JF_

Not Present - Ralph-GSR, Jim-Alternate, - **South Hadley Tuesday Night 12 & 12** This meeting is held on Tuesday night at 7:00 pm at Falls Congregational Church. Contributes to the pie chart. There is a reading of from the 12 & 12 followed by discussion. The last Tuesday the Tradition of the month is read. Medallions are given out for monthly sobriety. There are approximately 30 to 50 in attendance. The business meeting is held the last Tuesday after the meeting, and attended by 5 to 8 active members. A commitment is held one Thursday of month at Holyoke Hospital. They now have a librarian for used literature and books at cost.. *****Group is losing meeting place in the next 5 months. Discussion about finding a new location will be starting in February.***** hopes to move back to their former location at the methodist church.

JFM

Jim - GSR and Gabriel - Alternate, - **South Hadly Group** Falls Congregational Church Friday Night 6:00 - 7:00 Beginners, 7:30 - 8:30 Speaker. Contributes to the pie chart. Elections being held this Friday night. Seeking to do a group inventory. Group Anniversary in April. Does incoming/outgoing commitments once a month. Gives out monthly Grapevine subscription

monthly. Has a monthly commitment to Providence hospital. The speaker meeting gives out medallions to members. Beginners meeting gives out chips for lengths of sobriety. 25-35 in attendance at speaker meeting, 60-70 attend the beginners weekly. Group participates in LIP service. *****Group is losing its meeting space at the Congregational Church as it is closing June/July.** There is an anniversary meeting being held in April. No other changes.

JFM

Chris B. – **Here and Now** – E. Longmeadow – Wednesday 8:30 pm. Contributes to pie chart, has a commitment to detox once a month. Just held elections for meeting positions for now, will be holding committee positions asap. Grateful to be the new GSR for his group.

J_M

Randy – **Thank you Thursday** – Thursdays 7-8 pm Chicopee, MA. HolyName Church, Springfield MA. The group contributes to the pie, has monthly incoming and outgoing commitments and has a commitment at Providence hospital on Monday nights. 30-40 attend meeting and donations are good.

_FM

Tom A. - **Free for Today** - Hampden, Friday 7:30 - 8:30 pm. A one speaker discussion meeting with 5-7 active members that contributes to NY only. There si about 20-25 people who attend the meeting. They have a business meeting the last Friday night of the month. Other than Tom, there is no service participation

__M

Jim R. - **Hitchcock Academy Friday Night**- Hitchcock Academy in Brimfield, Friday's 7:30-8:30pm. Meeting is attended well but having a hard time with business meetings and filling positions. Nobody seems to want to take a commitment for services. Jim has been GSR for many years. Institution is well represented and does contribute financially.

__M

Corey M. - **Chicopee Beginner's Step** - Grace Union Church, Chicopee, Wednesdays 7:30pm Contributes financially. Has Intergroup, Institution, PI and GSR positions filled. Only does outgoing commitments. Has no institution commitment at the moment.

__M

Sandra M.- **M&M**- St. Michaels Church E. Longmeadow, 10:30-11:30 am Mondays.

In the process of electing service positions at the next business meeting - which are held the last Monday of the month. They will also be bringing up financial contributions. Everything is going

great and moving nicely. They have a Carlson Detox commitment the first Saturday of every month. They also give out free tickets to all for 1 free book of choice.

__M

Patty - **Sunrise Group** - Palmer Historical BLDG. 2072 Main St. Three Rivers Sun - Sat. 7am-8am Formally met at St. Mary's in Thorndike. Good attendance, doing well. Gives financially. Men do a Howard St. commitment and all members put on a Honor Court Commitment once a month in E. Brookfield.

__M

Angie- **Each Day a New Beginning**- Grace Union Church Wilbraham, Wednesdays 6:30pm- 8ish. Women's meeting. Everything going well. Will find out more to report for next month.

Visiting Committee Reports:

Eddie - Intergroup Treasurer

Wants to thanks all that have been contributing to intergroup. Get involved as a group, join phone coverage. If your group doesn't want to you can add your name to the back-up list.

New When and Where should be out at the end of March, not sure of color yet.

Intergroup will come to your meeting to put on a service committments like the area does: call Karl - 413-433-6968.

Bookie meeting on the 2nd Thursday of the month, at the intergroup office.

There is a new intergroup rep orientation at 6:30 before the intergroup meeting every month.

Anne - Alternate Delegate

Mentioned the Spring mini-conf. and assemble being held April 13-14 and discussed what it is really all about and how it is the groups chance to simulate what the Delegate does when they go to NY for the Conference . Discussion will be had about what the delegates will be discussing and it is our area's chance to give the delegate feedback so he can make an informed decision when voting or our area.

__Mary gave report from Area meeting - submitted written report.

*Area 31 archives having an open house.

*Spring Assembly is 4/13 and 14th in Holyoke.

*Round-up is May 18-19th.

*Radio show WMAS 1450 am put on by CPC and PI is from 6-630 am on Sundays.

*Round-up is looking for volunteers and donations: books, coffee, money.

*Dance tickets for the round-up are available for \$10.00

Old Business:

GSR Feedback wanted, none given, Please discuss with your group and bring back to meeting in April.

**Vote whether nominations should come from the floor for area offices or if all able should stand or a combination of the two. Third legacy procedures.

**should the webmaster be an area officer like the registrar and the archivist? This means they receive no vote and there is no rotation.

Pauline - LCM thanked all in attendance and spoke about District 5 being responsible for the workshops on Step 3 and Step 12 at the round-up

New Business:

Mentioned that our assigned workshops for the Round-up are

Third Legacy (9am-9:55), Step 2 (9:30am - 10:25am) and Step 12 (11:05pm-12:00am). Please think about whether you can take on one of these workshops. . Discussion was had that it is a GSR commitment, not done by the group.

Mary discussed "dark groups" Only 17 groups represented at district meeting out of 69. How can we get more involvement? Will bring back up next meeting due to time constraints.

Lynne, Co-DCM announced that she would have to step down as DCM due to living and work issues. She recently obtained a new job and it is too far to travel. Discussion was had about the job and that her position is a two year commitment, Mary will roll out in January and another Co-DCM will be elected with Lynne's position staying on until December of 2014. Anne recommended that we table the vote until next month so GSR's who are able to volunteer can go home and think about it. Also discuss with their group because when you become DCM you can not also be GSR. The meeting voted to vote next month.

Juan volunteered to read Chapter 7 and Tradition 4 for April meeting.

Next meeting is April 1, 2013 7:30 pm.

Meeting closed 9:20 – Responsibility Pledge

Respectfully submitted, Amy G. – District 5 Secretary